

(No. 69.)



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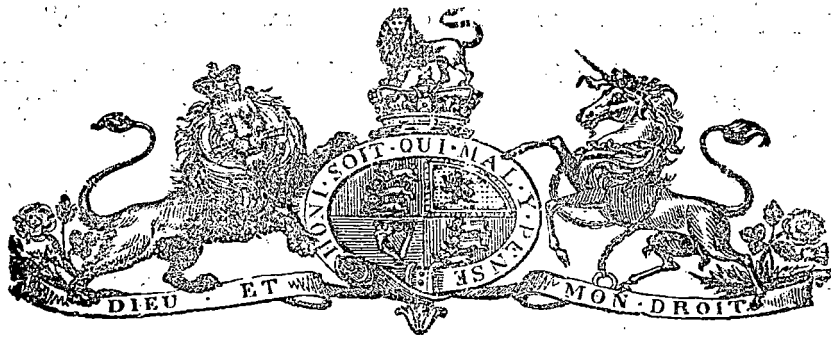
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

LANDS' TITLES OFFICE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Return to an Order of the House. (Mr. Giblin.)

Laid upon the Table by the Attorney-General, September 26, 1876, and ordered by the House to be printed.



LANDS' TITLES OFFICE.

Lands' Titles Office, Hobart Town, 25th September, 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memo. of the 20th instant, requesting a Report "as to the sufficiency of the staff at present employed in the Lands' Titles Office," for the information of Parliament.

As stated in my Report of the 18th instant, which I had the honor to furnish in reference to two letters which appeared in the *Launceston Examiner* of September 5th and September 14th instant, "the strength of the department almost from the date of its establishment in 1862 has never been sufficient to allow of the ever increasing business of the office being conducted with that ease and rapidity which, coupled with simplicity and cheapness, are essential elements in the success of title by registration."

So long ago as 31st August, 1873, Mr. Tarleton, who was then Recorder of Titles, reported of the condition of the staff in the following words:—"The financial embarrassments of the Colony unfortunately prevented the department, in spite of my remonstrances, from being placed upon the footing which Mr. Torrens advised. The natural consequences have not failed to show themselves. As applications increased the work gradually accumulated, until it fell seriously in arrears: that alacrity of action which (when compared with the interminable delays of the old law) was one of the most attractive recommendations of the new system was compromised, and no little disappointment and dissatisfaction was occasioned to many of the applicants. I feel bound to record my conviction that the business of the department will necessitate a still further increase of staff before the expiration of the coming year."

In a letter to the Honorable the late Attorney-General, dated 3rd June, 1876, my predecessor (Mr. Buckland) reported, that "the strength of the Department is wholly insufficient to discharge, with any pretence to efficiency, the duties it is called upon by law to perform—transactions which should require, at most, two or three days to pass the office now occupy as many months. This is not to be surprised at when it is considered that the strength of the Department is now actually less than it was in 1864, shortly after its first establishment, and that the work of the department has ever since gone on increasing day by day. I am convinced that the complaints of the profession would alone have prevented the department continuing in its present condition, had it not been their interest not to complain, but rather that the system should not be properly worked, and that the inconveniences occasioned by the insufficiency of the department should be generally felt by the public at large."

Immediately after these representations a reorganisation of the department followed, and I have the honor to forward a return of the past and present staff of officers.

The inconveniences referred to by Mr. Buckland have now been fully realised by the public; and recent events have unmistakably shown that the ill-feeling towards the office thus engendered is not to be allowed to die, but is rather to be fostered and kept alive by artificial means.

I am of opinion, therefore, that it is inexpedient to allow the arrears of work still remaining in the office to continue undisposed of for a single day longer than is absolutely necessary.

In my previous Report of the 18th instant, after referring to the good effect already produced by the addition of an engrossing and junior clerk to the permanent staff, and mentioning the benefit expected to be derived from allowing the Solicitor to the department to devote his time exclusively

to the duties of his office, without interruption from the calls of other and wholly different offices, I stated "that the arrears of work accumulating for several years could not be cleared off in as many weeks without employing a much larger staff of officials than was then available."

In the present state of public feeling I consider it inexpedient that it should be left to the present staff of officials (either by working after office hours or otherwise) gradually to diminish the heavy arrears of work, but recommend that a sum of money, say £100, should be placed at my disposal for the employment of any clerical out-door assistance which may be immediately available for the preparation of certificates of title, &c.; and I have the honor to submit that a like sum should be annually voted to provide for any unforeseen press of business, and to meet contingencies which the permanent staff of officials may not at all times in cases of emergency be strong enough to meet. The fluctuations of business have rendered this course necessary in Melbourne, and its adoption there has been marked by signal success.

The necessity for the appointment of a clerk to whom may be entrusted, primarily, the important duty of indexing, is becoming every day more apparent, and I have the honor to recommend that the necessary assistance may be afforded without delay.

Should my views be considered extravagant, I trust it will be remembered that the Lands' Titles Office, as the Statutory Conveyancer of the Colony, has become an established institution, and that the basis of its operations is widening, and the number of its transactions increasing year by year, and that by the system of title by registration already more than one-third of the conveyancing business of the Colony is conducted.

It is not too much to expect that if the staff of officials were maintained in adequate strength, and the work of the office were carried on without any vexatious delay, a large influx of business would immediately follow, and the department would within a short space of time be almost, if not altogether, self-supporting.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. PATTEN ADAMS, *Recorder of Titles.*

The Hon. the Attorney-General.

RETURN showing the Number of Officers employed in the Lands' Titles Department, from 1 July, 1862, to 4 July, 1876.

1862	Recorder of Titles, also Registrar of Deeds	Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners	Clerk and Draftsman	Clerk	..	..	..	3
1863	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1864	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1865	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1866	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1867	Recorder of Titles, also Registrar of Deeds and Collector of Succession Duties	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1868	Recorder of Titles, also Registrar of Deeds and Collector of Stamp Duties	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1869	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1870	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1871	Recorder of Titles, Office held by the Registrar of the Supreme Court	Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners, Registrar of Deeds, and Collector of Stamp Duties	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1872	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1873	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	..	4
1874	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Draftsman	..	..	5
1875	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	..	..	5
1876	Recorder of Titles, Registrar of Deeds, and Collector of Stamp Duties	Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Engrossing Clerk	Junior Clerk; for 18 mths. previously a volunteer	7

Lands' Titles Office, 3rd June, 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward the enclosed detailed estimate of the cost of the Lands' Titles Department for the year 1877.

It will be seen that the estimate is almost identical with the amount voted for 1876.

I am compelled, however, not only by a sense of duty, but also lest in the absence of any expression to the contrary it might be inferred that I considered the proposed estimate sufficient, to make the following observations upon the condition of the Department.

I have no hesitation in reporting that the strength of the Department is wholly insufficient to discharge, with any pretence to efficiency, the duties it is called upon by law to perform.

Transactions which should require, at most, some two or three days to pass through the office, now occupy as many months.

This is not to be surprised at when it is considered that the strength of the Department is now actually less than it was in 1864, shortly after its first establishment, and that the work of the Department has ever since gone on increasing day by day.

In 1864 the time and energy of the Recorder and Solicitor were devoted exclusively to the duties of the Department, and they were assisted by a stronger clerical staff than there is at present. Then the Department was the statutory conveyancer of the Colony in respect of 89,116 acres of land, and now it deals with 615,763 acres.

The fact that the work of the Department ought to and must necessarily increase daily, and that a periodical addition to its staff was to be contemplated, appears to me to have been altogether overlooked.

I am convinced that the complaints of the profession would, alone, have prevented the Department continuing in its present condition, had it not been to their interest not to complain, but rather that the system should not be properly worked, and that the inconveniences occasioned by the insufficiency of the Department should be generally felt by the public at large.

I have frequently been told that the Department, from its dilatoriness, was most unfavourably spoken of throughout the Colony.

But the profession even were not always able to restrain their complaints at the delays which occurred in the transaction of business they were compelled to bring to the Department. I enclose a copy of one of such complaints, which I was most humiliatingly compelled to receive and submit to in silence, having no sufficient reply to make.

At the present moment there is a large amount of arrears, amongst which I may specially mention the indexing from 18th October, 1872, and an accumulation of deeds for cancellation.

To bring up these arrears would occupy the undivided time of a clerk, with the experience and ability of Mr. Clarke, for the greater part of twelve months.

I must also draw particular attention to the fact that, in the absence of the index, the whole responsibility of searching is removed from the shoulders of the searcher and cast upon the office; and I much fear that, some day, the Assurance Fund may suffer from an oversight.

It also seems to me to be inevitable that, unless a change be made, the Recorder, sooner or later, must appear as defendant in an action for damages sustained in consequence of the dilatoriness of the Department, to the prejudice again of the Assurance Fund.

I venture most respectfully, but distinctly, to express my opinion that, if the Department is to continue to exist, and is to discharge the large amount of important duties which by law it is now required to perform in a proper and efficient manner, and without the risk at any moment of the Assurance Fund being called upon to answer for delay or mistake, it is absolutely necessary that a Recorder should be appointed whose time and attention is devoted principally, if not exclusively, to the control and management of the Department, and that two more clerks must at once be added to the permanent staff, to the care of one of whom the important task of indexing is to be especially committed as his primary duty. It would necessarily follow, if the staff were made adequate to carrying on the work with anything approaching to proper rapidity, that it would be impossible for the Solicitor to continue to perform the duties of the other offices he now holds.

I regret to have troubled you at such length; but it seems to me that, as the present Head of the Department, I should be open to much blame did I not lay my honest views upon the state of the Department fully before the Government, feeling convinced, as I do, that trouble and loss must sooner or later surely follow if the Department is continued as at present constituted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. J. BUCKLAND, Recorder.

The Hon. the Attorney-General.

(Copy.)

St. John-street, 7th April, 1876.

SIR,

WE have the honor to call your attention to the extraordinary delay which generally takes place in getting transactions, even of the simplest character, completed in the Lands' Titles Office, and respectfully request that you will take steps to have the same remedied.

On the 4th ult. we wrote to Mr. W. E. Gunn a letter to be forwarded to the head office, calling attention to the long delay which had occurred in the preparation of certain Certificates of Title under Transfers which had been long since filed, and in the registration of several Mortgages, and the return of them and of Certificates of Title. Of this letter no notice appears to have been taken: at least, we have not had any intimation of any attention having been given to it.

This morning we attended at the office of the Deputy Recorder of Titles about a number of documents which had been sent during several months past from our office to be forwarded to Hobart Town for registration, &c., and found that no fewer than fifteen different matters were still incomplete, or, at least, that the papers had not been returned to Launceston.

At the same time we met Messrs. Douglas & Collins' clerk and Mr. J. J. Hudson, who were at the office on similar business, and were complaining, like ourselves, at the delay in getting matters attended to, and the annoyance and inconvenience as well as serious risk to which they and clients were exposed in consequence.

Messrs. Douglas & Collins' clerk had a list of some thirty different matters; and found that only in some three or four of them had the documents been registered and returned.

We have, &c.

(Signed) RITCHIE & PARKER.

H. J. BUCKLAND, *Esq.*, Recorder of Titles.
Lands' Titles Office, Hobart Town.

Lands' Titles Office, 3rd June, 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tender to the Government my resignation of the appointment which I have had the honor to hold since 1st May, 1871, as Recorder of Titles.

The length of time, now upwards of 5 years, during which the Department has been carried on at only a nominal expense to the Colony for the salary of its head, might perhaps of itself be considered sufficient to entitle me to ask to be relieved of the additional office imposed upon me. I am however left no option in the course to be pursued, inasmuch as I am professionally advised that it is impossible for me to continue to perform the same amount of official duty without the most serious and permanent injury to my health; and I am therefore compelled, reluctantly, to request to be permitted to retire from the charge of a Department which from its inefficiency, and the impossibility, with my other numerous duties, of exercising over it a sufficient or satisfactory supervision or control, is constantly occasioning me very considerable mental annoyance and anxiety, not only to the interference with the proper discharge of the duties of my other offices, but also greatly to the prejudice of my health.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. J. BUCKLAND, Recorder.

*The Hon. the Attorney-General.**Lands' Titles Office, 3rd July, 1876.*

SIR,

BEFORE accepting your proposal that I should resign the office of Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners and perform the duties of Recorder of Titles, Registrar of Deeds, and Collector of Stamp Duties, at a salary of £600 per annum, I have the honor to submit to your notice the following remarks:—

I should accept the office of Recorder of Titles with considerable reluctance, unless upon the distinct understanding that clerical assistance should at once be afforded sufficient to remedy the deplorable condition of the Department with regard to existing arrears of work as represented by the present Recorder of Titles, Mr. H. J. Buckland, in his recent letter to you; and I strongly advise an increase in the permanent staff of clerks as therein suggested.

More than fourteen years ago I relinquished practice as a solicitor and accepted the sole office of Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners, at a salary of £500 per annum. This office I have held continuously since that time, and although I have in addition performed for many years past the

somewhat arduous duties of Registrar of Deeds, and Collector of Stamp Duties, my salary has never been raised.

Without the increased amount of salary now offered I probably should prefer remaining in my present position, and should any unforeseen circumstances prevent the carrying out of the proposed arrangement the option of a return to those duties should I consider be reserved to me. I may be allowed to state, the proposed increase of salary is my principal inducement to accept the Recorder-ship.

Should you agree with my views now expressed, I shall be prepared to enter upon my new duties without delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. PATTEN ADAMS.

The Hon. the Attorney-General.

MINUTE PAPER FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Attorney-General's Office, Hobart Town, 3rd July, 1876.

SUBMITTED,

THAT the resignation of Henry John Buckland, Esquire, as Recorder of Titles, be accepted, and that George Patten Adams, Esquire, be appointed Recorder of Titles, Registrar of Deeds, and Collector of Stamp Duties, at a salary of Six hundred Pounds per annum; and that the Hon. John Alexander Jackson, Esquire, be appointed Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners in succession to George Patten Adams, Esquire, at a salary of Four hundred Pounds per annum.

The above to take effect from this day.

W. R. GIBLIN.

THE Governor in Council approves.

E. C. NOWELL,
3. 7. 76.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

No. 134.

Attorney-General's Office, 3rd July, 1876.

THE Governor in Council has been pleased to accept the resignation by Henry John Buckland, Esquire, of his appointment as Recorder of Titles.

By His Excellency's Command,

W. R. GIBLIN.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

No. 135.

Attorney-General's Office, 3rd July, 1876.

THE Governor in Council has been pleased to accept the resignation by George Patten Adams, Esquire, of his appointment as Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners.

By His Excellency's Command,

W. R. GIBLIN.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

No. 136.

Attorney-General's Office, 3rd July, 1876.

IN pursuance of the provisions of *The Real Property Act*, the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint George Patten Adams, Esquire, to be Recorder of Titles in succession to Henry John Buckland, Esquire, resigned.

By His Excellency's Command,

W. R. GIBLIN.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

No. 137.

Attorney-General's Office, 3rd July, 1876.

IN pursuance of the provisions of *The Real Property Act*, the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint John Alexander Jackson, Esquire, to be Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners, in succession to George Patten Adams, Esquire, resigned.

By His Excellency's Command,

W. R. GIBLIN.

MEMO.

THE Governor in Council has been pleased to accept the resignation by Henry John Buckland, Esquire, of the office of Recorder of Titles, and by George Patten Adams, Esquire, of the office of Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners; and to appoint Mr. Adams to be Recorder of Titles, he retaining the offices of Registrar of Deeds and Collector of Stamp Duties, at a salary of Six hundred Pounds per annum; and to appoint John Alexander Jackson, Esquire, to be Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners, at a salary of Four hundred Pounds per annum.

The above to take effect from the 3rd instant.

W. R. GIBLIN.

*Attorney-General's Office, 3. 7. 76.**The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.**Attorney-General's Office, 3rd July, 1876.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased, upon the resignation by Henry John Buckland, Esquire, of the office of Recorder of Titles, to appoint you to that office in succession to Mr. Buckland, at a salary of Six hundred Pounds per annum, you retaining the offices of Registrar of Deeds and Collector of Stamp Duties.

To take effect from the 3rd instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. R. GIBLIN.

*GEORGE PATTEN ADAMS, Esq., Recorder of Titles.**Attorney-General's Office, 3rd July, 1876.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased, upon the resignation by George Patten Adams, Esquire, of the office of Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners, to appoint you to that office, at a salary of Four hundred Pounds per annum.

To take effect from the 3rd instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. R. GIBLIN.

*JOHN ALEXANDER JACKSON, Esquire, Solicitor to the Lands' Titles Commissioners.**Lands' Titles Office, 7th July, 1876.*

SIR,

I DESIRE to disclaim any connection, either directly or indirectly, with the sub-leaders in the *Tribune* of yesterday and to-day alluding to the recent re-arrangement of the staff of the Lands' Titles Department.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES M. CLARKE.

The Hon. the Attorney-General.

Lands' Titles Office, 11th July, 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that Mr. C. R. Atkins is a candidate for a clerkship in the Lands' Titles Office. Having been eleven years in the office of Messrs. Allport & Roberts, I believe him to be fully qualified for the post. He is willing to accept £120 per annum as salary, and would join when his present engagement with Messrs. Allport terminates.

I beg to recommend that Mr. J. M. Clarke, who has been in the Lands' Titles Office from its commencement, should have the title of Chief Clerk, with a yearly salary of £300, being an increase of £20 per annum.

Mr. Harbroe, who has been a volunteer in the office for the past eighteen months, should, I consider, be placed upon the permanent staff of clerks at a yearly salary of £50.

The arrears of work appear too formidable to be undertaken by the clerks after office hours with any hope of accomplishment under a year at least: this delay would be too great, as it is of the utmost importance that the index should be entered up to the present date with all possible despatch. I beg therefore to submit that I should be allowed to employ such clerical assistance as may at once be obtainable, the cost of such clerical assistance would probably amount to £100 or thereabouts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. PATTEN ADAMS.

The Hon. the Attorney-General.

Lands' Titles Office, 3rd June, 1876.

SIR,

MORE than six months having elapsed without my hearing anything respecting an alteration in my position in this office (concerning which I addressed you in November last), I venture again to draw your attention to the fact that the period during which I have served as a volunteer now extends over 17 months. During that unusual length of gratuitous service I have endeavoured in every possible way to fulfil my duties in a satisfactory and conscientious manner, in which endeavour I trust that, in your opinion, I have not altogether been unsuccessful. I would therefore respectfully solicit at your hands an early consideration of my case, and would further ask your recommendation to the proper quarter with a view of my position in the office being permanently defined, and my services remunerated to that degree to which you may consider them worthy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. L. HARBROE.

H. J. BUCKLAND, *Esq.*, *Recorder of Titles.*

FORWARDED to the Honorable the Attorney-General, with copy of the correspondence which took place in the end of last year when Mr. Harbroe was awarded a gratuity of £20.

I beg to recommend the present application for favourable consideration.

H. J. BUCKLAND, *Recorder.*
3rd June, 1876.

Lands' Titles Office, 16th November, 1875.

SIR,

HAVING entered the Lands' Titles Office on the 4th of January of the present year as a volunteer, and having, I trust, worked during that time to your satisfaction, I take the liberty to bring my position under your notice, in order that I may either be placed on pay in that department, or that you will kindly recommend me for the first vacancy that may occur in any other of the Government offices.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. L. HARBROE.

H. J. BUCKLAND, *Esq.*, *Recorder of Titles.*

FORWARDED to the Honorable the Attorney-General, and recommended.

H. J. BUCKLAND, *Recorder.*
20th November, 1875.

MEMORANDUM.

THE Governor in Council has, in consideration of the satisfactory service of Mr. J. L. Harbroe as a volunteer in the Lands' Titles Office during the year 1875, been pleased to award him a gratuity of Twenty pounds.

To be provided for on a Supplementary Estimate.

The Recorder of Titles.

(Signed) W. R. GIBLIN.
Attorney-General's Office, 22nd December, 1875.

FOR MR. Harbroe's perusal.

(Signed) H. J. BUCKLAND, *Recorder.*
23. 12. 75.

Attorney-General's Office, Hobart Town, 22nd December, 1875.

SIR,

WITH reference to Mr. Harbroe's application for permanent employment in the Lands' Titles Office, I have now the honor to inform you that as the application was not received until the Estimates for 1876 had been prepared, the Government is unable at present to accede to the request.

With a view to recognising the services rendered by Mr. Harbroe in the past, instructions have been given to the Treasury to pay to him a gratuity of Twenty pounds (£20), (as per Memo. forwarded to you), and should his services continue to be usefully and efficiently rendered he will receive permanent employment upon the first suitable opportunity.

Should the continuous increase in the business of the Lands' Titles Office demand the permanent employment of an additional junior clerk, I shall no doubt receive another communication from you on the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. R. GIBLIN

H. J. BUCKLAND, *Esq., Recorder of Titles.*

MINUTE PAPER FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Attorney-General's Office, Hobart Town, 11th July, 1876.

In re *Staff of Lands' Titles Office.*

WITH a view to promote the efficiency of the Lands' Titles Office, and upon the recommendation of the Recorder of Titles, submitted that the following alterations in the Staff of Officers be made:—

That Mr. James Mallard Clarke, Clerk and Draftsman, be appointed Chief Clerk and Draftsman, at a salary of Three hundred pounds (£300) per annum.

That Mr. Charles Robert Atkins be appointed Engrossing Clerk, at a salary of One hundred and twenty pounds (£120) per annum.

That Mr. John L. Harbroe, hitherto serving as a volunteer in the Department, be appointed a Junior Clerk, at a salary of Fifty pounds (£50) per annum.

Mr. Clarke's and Mr. Harbroe's appointments to take effect from the 1st instant; Mr. Atkins' to take effect from the date to which the Recorder of Titles may certify.

With a view to complete the Index of the office, and other important work which has fallen greatly into arrear through the insufficiency of the staff heretofore employed, and which arrears it is imperatively necessary to remove, it is further submitted that a sum not exceeding One hundred pounds (£100) be placed at the disposal of the Recorder of Titles for the employment of such temporary clerical assistance as he may require for such purpose.

All the expenditure authorised in this Minute to be charged on a Supplementary Estimate.

W. R. GIBLIN.

THE Governor in Council approves.

E. C. NOWELL.
17. 7. 76.

MEMO.

THE Governor in Council has been pleased to make the following alterations in the Staff of the Lands' Titles Department :—

Mr. James Mallard Clarke, Clerk and Draftsman, to be Chief Clerk and Draftsman, at a salary of Three hundred pounds (£300) per annum.

Mr. Charles Robert Atkins to be Engrossing Clerk, at a salary of One hundred and twenty pounds (£120) per annum.

Mr. John L. Harbroe to be a Junior Clerk, at a salary of Fifty pounds (£50) per annum.

Mr. Clarke's and Mr. Harbroe's appointments to take effect from the 1st instant; Mr. Atkins' to take effect from the date to which the Recorder of Titles may certify.

The Governor in Council has been pleased to place at the disposal of the Recorder of Titles a sum, not exceeding One hundred pounds (£100), for the employment of such temporary clerical assistance as he may deem necessary for the purpose of completing the Index of the office, and other important work which has fallen greatly into arrear, and which arrears it is imperatively necessary to remove.

W. R. GIBLIN, *Attorney-General's Office.*
17th July, 1876.

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.

MINUTE PAPER FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Attorney-General's Office, Hobart Town, 3rd July, 1876.

SUBMITTED,

THAT in consideration of the long and faithful services of Henry John Buckland, Esquire, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Collector of Probate Duties, and Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, he be authorised to receive salary at the rate of Five hundred pounds per annum for the offices still retained by him, in lieu of the sums of Four hundred pounds per annum heretofore payable to him as Registrar and Collector, and One hundred pounds per annum heretofore payable to him as Recorder of Titles, the latter of which offices he has been compelled to relinquish by pressure of his other duties, which conjoined to those of Recorder were impairing his health.

W. R. GIBLIN.

THE Governor in Council approves.

E. C. NOWELL.
17. 7. 76.

Attorney-General's Office, 17th July, 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased at your request to accept your resignation of the office of Recorder of Titles, and to appoint George Patten Adams, Esquire, to be your successor.

In conveying to you this intimation I have to express the regret of the Governor in Council that the state of your health should have necessitated the step which you have been compelled to take. I am happy to be able to inform you that in consideration of your long and faithful services the Governor in Council has been pleased to approve of your receiving salary at the rate of Five hundred pounds per annum for the offices retained by you. To take effect from the 3rd instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. GIBLIN.

H. J. BUCKLAND, *Esq.*

Registrar's Office, 17th July, 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, and have in reply gratefully to thank you for conveying to me the expression by the Governor in Council of interest in my health, and satisfaction with the performance of my public duties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. J. BUCKLAND, *Registrar.*

The Hon. W. R. GIBLIN, Attorney-General.

MEMO.

THE Governor in Council has been pleased to approve of Henry John Buckland, Esq., Registrar of the Supreme Court, Collector of Probate Duties, and Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, receiving salary at the rate of Five hundred pounds per annum for the combined offices held by him, in lieu of the sums of Four hundred pounds per annum payable to him as Registrar and Collector, and One hundred pounds per annum payable to him as Recorder of Titles, but which office he has resigned. To take effect from the 3rd instant.

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.

W. R. GIBLIN, *Attorney-General's Office,*
17th July, 1876.